

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of confirming connection of a terminal  
connecting portion in which a plurality of male terminals  
are inserted respectively into a plurality of female  
5 terminals to make an electrical connection therebetween,

said method comprising the steps of:

disposing electrically conductive movable elements in  
at least all to-be-connected female terminals into which  
said male terminals are to be respectively inserted in a  
10 correct connection condition, and

each of said movable elements being moved from a  
waiting position to a conduction position by an insertion  
operation of corresponding one of said male terminals,

detecting a state where all of said movable elements  
15 in said to-be-connected female terminals are moved  
respectively to said conduction positions by a conduction  
test device having conductive portions which, when said  
movable elements are moved to said conduction positions,  
are in contact with said movable elements, respectively.

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2. An apparatus for confirming connection of a terminal  
connecting portion in which a plurality of male terminals  
are inserted respectively into a plurality of female  
terminals to make an electrical connection therebetween,

said apparatus comprising:

electrically conductive movable elements, and

a conduction test device; wherein

said movable elements are disposed respectively in at

5 least all to-be-connected female terminals into which said  
male terminals are to be respectively inserted in a correct  
connection condition, in a state where each of said movable  
elements is moved from a waiting position to a conduction  
position by an insertion operation of corresponding one of  
10 said male terminals;

said conduction test device includes conductive  
portions which, when said movable elements are moved to  
said conduction position, are in contact with said movable  
elements, respectively; and

15 when all of said movable elements in said to-be-  
connected female terminals are moved to said conduction  
positions, said conduction portions become conductive.

3. The apparatus for confirming connection of a terminal  
20 connecting portion according to claim 2, wherein

each of said movable elements comprises:

a conductor which is to be in contact with  
corresponding one of said conductive portions of said  
conduction test device, and

an insulator integrating with said conductor, which is to be in contact with and pushed by corresponding one of said male terminals.

5 4. The apparatus for confirming connection of a terminal connecting portion according to claim 2, wherein

said movable elements are disposed in only said to-be-connected female terminals of all said female terminals, and

10 said conductive portions of said conduction test device are placed to be in contact with said movable elements, respectively.

15 5. The apparatus for confirming connection of a terminal connecting portion according to claim 2, wherein

said movable elements are disposed in all said female terminals including said to-be-connected female terminals, and

20 said conductive portions of said conduction test device are placed to be in contact with said movable elements in only said to-be-connected female terminals, respectively.

6. The apparatus for confirming connection of a terminal connecting portion according to claim 2, wherein

said male terminals are respectively disposed on bus bars in a junction block, and

5       said female terminals are respectively disposed in connectors of a printed circuit board of an electronic control unit which is to be mounted on said junction block.